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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. Fox of Pennsylvania].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 9, 1995.

I hereby designate the Honorable JON D. Ford to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

For grace and peace, for faith and hope, for good friends and family and colleagues, for all these good gifts and for all the wonderful blessings of life, we offer this prayer of thanksgiving and praise. Remind us, O gracious God, that whatever else we fought in our busy lives, we do not forget to offer thanks and praise—thanks to You for the miracles of life, and praise for the people about us who sustain us and help us along life's way. May we live each day full of appreciation for Your grace, O God, and for the opportunities to express that appreciation in deeds of justice and mercy. In Your name, we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Fox of Pennsylvania). The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present, and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I, further proceedings on this question are postponed until later today.

The point of no quorum is considered as withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. DELAURO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 Members for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

NO UNITED STATES GROUND TROOPS TO BOSNIA

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about the Clinton administration's continued declarations about its intent to send United States ground troops to Bosnia for so-called peacekeeping operations. The Clinton administration has been completely inept at convincing Congress or the American people that we have a compelling interest in Bosnia.

Mr. Speaker, the President has an obligation to build a public consensus before committing American forces to these kinds of hazardous missions. And, to term U.S. ground troops in Bosnia hazardous is an understatement. It would be a virtual death sentence for many Americans. I have yet to talk to a single soul who is in support of this kind of deployment.

Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, Clinton made the promise he would send the troops, with no idea of what they will be doing, how long they will stay, or what the measure of success would be. Last week, we passed a resolution saying come to us before you do that. The next day, the President said, We do not care what they pass down there, we are going to do it anyway.

Last night a conference produced a binding resolution which will come to the floor of this House hopefully next week. We will get an opportunity to debate this issue fully and to consider it.

Mr. Speaker, when one of our young service men or women comes home from Bosnia in a body bag, how do I tell the parents he died serving his country?

RAIDING OF PENSION PLANS

(Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to address a provision that was included in budget reconciliation. This provision would allow

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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